

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 00067 211636Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /011 W

-----129076 211641Z /45

O 211611Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8056

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 5067

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, NI

SUBJECT: RAY BAKER

REF: (A) LAGOS 4826, (B) EASUM/CAHILL TELCON APRIL 21

1. IMMEDIATELY AFTER REFTELCON CAHILL MET WITH AMBASSADOR FABUNMI AT MEA. FABUNMI AND STAFF REPORTED THAT ANSWERING MEA NOTE TO EMBASSY'S NOTE OF MARCH 25 HAD BEEN TRANSMITTED ON APRIL 19. TEXT OF MESSAGE, WHICH WE HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED, WAS THAT MEA HAD SUBMITTED CASE TO APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES AND WOULD BE ADVISING US OF EVENTUAL RESULTS.

2. IN ANSWER TO OUR NOTE'S SPECIFIC QUESTION AS TO HOW TO PROCEED IN LIGHT OF COMMISSIONER SHINKAFI'S LACK OF JURISDICTION, FABUNMI STATED THAT EMBASSY SHOULD WORK ONLY WITH MEA ON ISSUE. TO PROVE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS CHANNEL FABUNMI THEN PROUDLY DECLARED THAT HE HAD BEEN TO THE CABINET OFFICE ON APRIL 20 ON BEHALF OF BAKER AND OTHER UNRESOLVED CASES CONCERNING FOREIGNERS. FABUNMI SAID THAT HE HAD ARGUED LONG AND HARD, DEMANDING ACTION WHICH WOULD RESOLVE THE CASES OF THESE PEOPLE. THE 'PROPER AUTHORITIES' IN THE CABINET IN TURN ASSURED HIM THAT THEY WOULD PROCEED WITH AN INVESTIGATION OF THE BAKER CASE AND LET FABUNMI KNOW.

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3. FABUNMI ALSO MENTIONED BAKER CASE TO A CONSULAR OFFICER ON APRIL 20. HE WAS OPTIMISTIC AND THOUGHT THAT ISSUANCE OF A VISA MIGHT BE POSSIBLE VERY SOON.

4. IN REGARD TO NSO CHANNEL, MOST RECENT ACTION WAS ON EVE OF PRESIDENT'S VISIT WHEN NSO ASSURED EMBOFF THAT

IT WAS FINISHED WITH CASE. IN NSO EYES BAKER IS CLEAN.
TO BEST OF NSO KNOWLEDGE DOSSIER IS WITH IMMIGRATION OFFICE,
THE ORGANIZATION WHICH CONTROLS RESIDENCE PERMITS.

5. COMMENT: WE FEEL FAIRLY CONFIDENT THAT OUTLOOK FOR
BAKER IS BRIGHTENING AND THAT WE MAY HAVE A SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION
SOON.
WYMAN

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Message Attributes

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